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# What's a Historical Resource?

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California Preservation Conference  
Presidio of San Francisco  
Preservation 101  
April 28, 2004

# Historical Resource Categories:

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- Building
- Structure
- Object
- Site
- District

# Things to Think About

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- Is the property historically significant?
- If it is, what are the characteristics that make it significant?
- Avoid being arbitrary and capricious
- Apply established criteria, standards and methodology in a professional manner

# Register Programs

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- National Register of Historic Places
- California Register of Historical Resources
- Locally designated properties

# ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

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- **CEQA**
- **SECTION 106**
  - Sometimes you need to evaluate a resource to assess impacts to the environment
  - Sometimes these resources are not on any register or survey, and you have to make a defensible argument

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Context

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- **Theme**
  - **Geographical Area**
  - **Period of Time**
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- Public education in Sacramento from 1850-1950
  - Period revival residences in Woodland from 1920-1940

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 1: Context

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- Determine what context the resource represents
- Determine whether that context is significant in history
- Determine if the resource type has relevance in illustrating the context
- Determine how the resource illustrates that context

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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- Associated with events
- Associated with persons
- Architecture/Design/Engineering
- Information potential

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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Association with  
events, pattern of  
events, repeated  
activities, historic  
trends

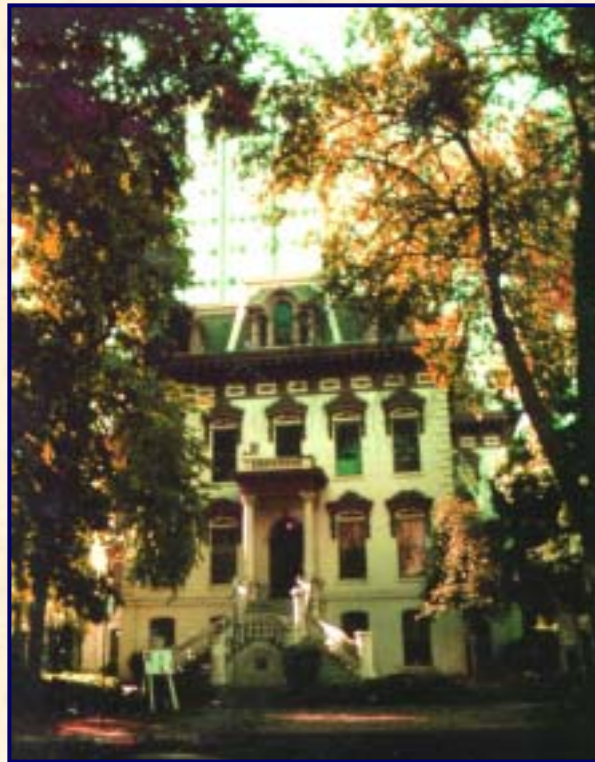


# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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Association with significant persons



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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Embodies  
distinctive  
characteristics of a  
type, represents  
the work of a  
master, possesses  
high artistic values



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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Embodies distinctive characteristics of a type,  
represents the work of a master, possesses  
high artistic values



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

---

Embodies  
distinctive  
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# Evaluating Significance

## Step 2: Criteria

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Has yielded or has the potential to yield important information



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 3: Special Considerations

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- Moved buildings, structures or objects
- Achieved significance within past fifty years
- Reconstructed buildings and structures

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 3: Special Considerations

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- Moved buildings, structures or objects:
  - Moved to prevent demolition
  - Compatible new location
    - Orientation, setting, general environment



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 3: Special Considerations

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- Achieved significance within past fifty years:
  - Sufficient time has passed to understand importance within its context



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 3: Special Considerations

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- Reconstructed buildings and structures:
  - Embody traditional building methods and techniques



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Authenticity of a historical resource's physical identity evidenced by survival of characteristics that existed during the resource's period of significance

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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- Location
- Design
- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Feeling
- Association

# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Location: Place where resource was constructed or event occurred



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Design: Combination of elements that create form, plan, space, structure and style



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity - Design

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# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Setting: Physical environment of a resource



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Materials:  
Physical  
elements that  
form a resource



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity - Materials

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# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Workmanship: Physical evidence of the crafts or culture of a people



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity - Workmanship

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# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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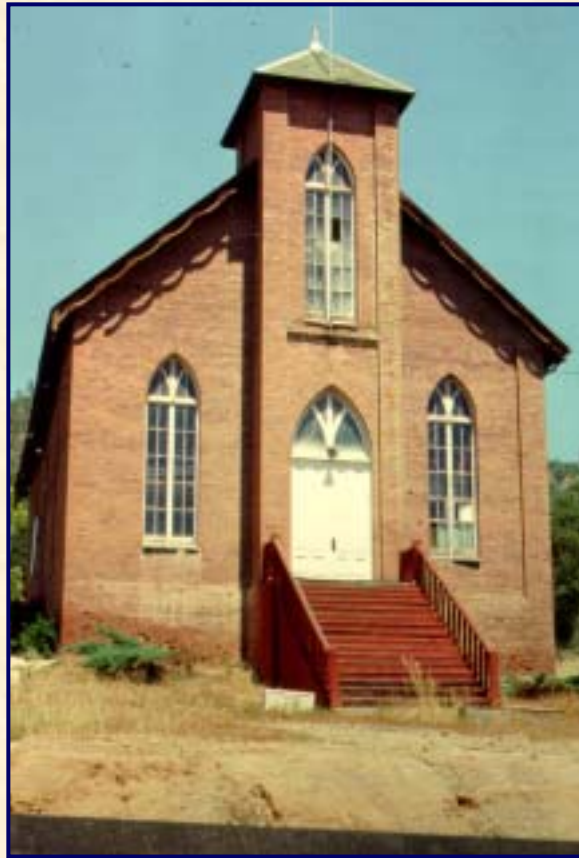
Feeling: Expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time



# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity - Feeling

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# Evaluating Significance

## Step 4: Integrity

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Association: Direct link between event or person and resource



# Character-Defining Features: Exterior Materials

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# Character-Defining Features: Exterior Materials

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# Character-Defining Features: Exterior Details

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# Character-Defining Features: Exterior Details

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# Character-Defining Features: Exterior Details

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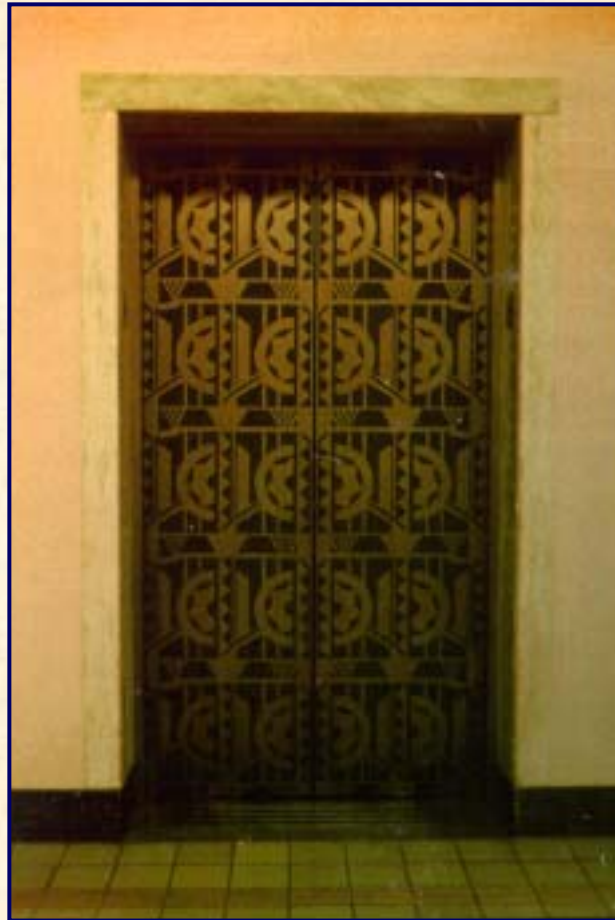
# Character-Defining Features: Interior Details

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# Character-Defining Features: Interior Details

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# Character-Defining Features: Interior Details

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# Character-Defining Features: Overall Character

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# Character-Defining Features: Overall Character

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